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NATIONAL DIABETES INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE
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DIABETIC AIDS

SELECTED PRODUCTS

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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ARTHRITIS, METABOLISM, AND DIGESTIVE DISEASES

PREFACE

This list has been prepared primarily for persons with diabetes who need descriptive information about various aids. Health professionals, family members, and others assisting those with diabetes may also find it useful. The compilation is based upon information received from health professionals and producers of the items. No attempt has been made to assess the value of the products described here, and their inclusion in the listing does not imply endorsement by the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases.

Source, price, and availability have been verified for each item, but these may be subject to change after publication of the listing. Since the Clearinghouse does not distribute materials or products, please contact the source indicated for additional information. The Clearinghouse welcomes your comments, inquiries, and additional materials.

The list includes diabetic aids in the following categories:

Emergency Medical Identification Aids

Foot Care Aids

Hypoglycemic Aids

Injection Aids

Travel Aids

Urine Testing Aid

DIABETIC AIDS

SELECTED PRODUCTS

Emergency Medical Identification Aids

1. Diabetic I.D.

A vinyl-jacketed holder contains an identification card with space for pertinent information. The card lists symptoms and recommended treatment for hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia. A cardboard insert provides space for pills or sugar packets.

Price: $0.89 (English I.D.); $0.99 (English/French I.D. or English/Spanish I.D.); $0.50 (Vinyl Wallet); plus $0.50 postage. (California residents add 6 percent sales tax.)

Source: Crown Products; P.O. Box 6154; Torrance, CA 90504. (No phone number available.)

2. Diabetic I.D.s.

Stainless steel I.D. necklace and bracelet can have up to 5 lines of information, with 20 characters per line. The necklace measures 24", the bracelet, from 6" to 8 1/2".

Price: $4.00 plus $0.50 postage.

Source: McRoberts I.D. Company; 5725 Buford Highway, Suite 231; Atlanta, GA 30340. (404) 458-1800.

3. Emerg-Alert.

The EMERG-ALERT bracelet and necklace are available in two series. Series 300 has the raised A.M.A. emergency medical symbol, is non-allergenic, and is made of polished stainless steel. Series 200 has an embossed A.M.A. emblem, is made of stainless steel, and is non-allergenic. The word "diabetic" appears on the reverse side of each series. Special wording is available for an additional charge. A maximum of five lines (18 characters per line) will be accepted.

Price: $2.99 (200 series - standard wording); $3.75 (200 series - special wording); $3.79 (300 series - standard wording); $4.50 (300 series - special wording).

Source: National Identification Company; Division NIDCO of Colorado, Inc.; 3955 Oneida Street; Denver, CO 80207. (800) 525-1982.

4. Medic Alert Emblems.

Medic Alert Foundation provides bracelets and necklaces engraved with the medical problem, the file number of the wearer, and telephone number of Medic Alert's Central File on the back of the emblem. The necklace has a 26" chain, and the bracelet is available in either standard or small sizes. The jewelry can be ordered in stainless steel, sterling silver, or gold filled.

Price: $10.00 (stainless steel); $17.50 (sterling silver); $28.00 (gold filled).

Source: Medic Alert Foundation International; P.O. Box 1009; Turlock, CA 95380. (209) 632-2371.

5. Medic Assist Identification Tags.

The Medic Assist bracelet and necklace are made of stainless steel and have the A.M.A.-approved universal emergency medical symbol on one side. Up to five lines (21 letters or spaces per line) may be indented on the opposite side. A wallet card for additional information is also available.

Price: $1.50; $0.10/wallet card.

Source: W. A. Morrow Company, Inc.; P.O. Box 80; Mercer Island, WA 08040. (206) 232-1532.

6. Medical I.D. Tag.

This medical tag is available in both neck and bracelet tags, with space provided for name, problem, telephone number, and any additional medical problems. A medical I. D. card is included with each tag.

Price: $3.95.

Source: Monroe Specialty Co.; P.O. Box 240; Monroe, WI 53566. (608) 328-8381.

7. Medi-Check Identification Tag.

These stainless steel emergency medical identification neck tags, wrist bracelets, and metal wallet cards are for persons with hidden medical conditions. The Medic Alert emblem is embossed on the front, and pertinent information (such as medical problem, physician's name, nearest relative, addresses, and telephone numbers) is engraved on the back.

Price: $5.00 minumum donation.

Source: Medi-Check International Foundation; 2640 Golf Road; Glenview, IL 60025. (312) 724-8280.

8. Medi-Guard Emergency Identification.

This stainless steel medical tag bearing the A.M.A.-approved emergency symbol is available in bracelet, necklace, or key ring style. On its reverse side, the tag bears the following information: name, emergency telephone number, and "Diabetic."

Price: $7.24.

Source: New York Diabetes Association, Inc.; 104 East 40th Street; New York, NY 10016. (212) 697-7760.

9. Medilog I.D. Bracelet.

The stainless steel identification bracelet, embossed with a medical alert emblem, provides a waterproof compartment for the patient's complete medical history sheet (also included with the purchase). It is available in both men's and women's sizes.

Price: $7.95 plus $1.00 postage; $1.50 for engraving.

Source: Ostlund Jewelry; Miracle Mile Shopping Center; 5405 Excelsior Boulevard; St. Louis Park, MN 55416. (612) 926-2662.

10. Protective Identification Bracelet.

The stainless steel identification bracelet can be engraved with up to five lines of information, 19 characters per line. A chart is provided on the order form to help ascertain the correct wrist size.

Price: $2.00; $1.50/12 or more.

Source: Vital Products; Rt. 1; P.O. Box 111; Audubon, MN 56511. (218) 439-6628.

Foot Care Aids

11. Buf Foot Care Kit.

Buf Foot Care Kit contains: BUF-PED Foot Cleansing Sponge which helps remove thick, dry skin; BUF Foot-Care Soap which enhances the cleansing action of BUF-PED, softens feet and

helps reduce scaliness; and BUF Foot-Care Lotion which moisturizes the skin to help reduce drying and cracking.

Price: $5.89/suggested retail price.

Source: Available at local drug stores. Manufacturer: Riker Laboratories, Inc.; Northridge, CA 91324. (213) 241-1300.

12. Podolan.

Podolan is a foot skin lotion created for the person with foot problems. The diabetic is specifically addressed. An instructive tape and a booklet recommending a program of preventive foot care that includes the use of the lotion are also available.

Price: $2.50/lotion; $3.00/booklet; and $3.50/cassette.

Source: PodoClinic Laboratory, Inc.; P.O. Box 204; Marysville, CA 95901. (916) 742-3469.

Hypoglycemic Aids

13. Cake Mate.

This 4.25-ounce plastic tube contains 19 grams of carbohydrates which can be administered to a diabetic immediately after the the onset of hypoglycemic symptoms.

Price: $0.69.

Source: Available at local food stores. Manufacturer: McCormick Co.; Light St. at the Inner Harbor; Baltimore, MD 21202. (301) 667-7301.

14. Glutose.

Glutose is a lemon-flavored, concentrated sugar for the treatment of insulin reactions. Each bottle contains 32 grams of glucose in a gel base. There are 128 calories per bottle.

Price: $2.25/suggested retail price.

Source: Available at local drug stores. Manufacturer: Paddock Laboratories, Inc.; 2744 Lynndale Avenue South; Minneapolis, MN 55408. (612) 824-2621.

15. Insta-Glucose.

Insta-Glucose is a concentrated carbohydrate gel scientifically designed to administer a single dosage quantity of liquid glucose. The dosage consists of 30.8 grams of dextrose 40 percent. It is designed to aid diabetics immediately after the onset of a hypoglycemic symptom. It is packaged in unit dose tubes with twist-off caps.

Price: $2.39/suggested retail price.

Source: Available at local drugstores. Manufacturer: ICN Pharmaceuticals Inc.; 5040 Lester Road; Cincinnati, OH 45213. (800) 543-4646.

16. Instant Glucose.

Packages contain 3 tubes, each filled with 25 grams of liquid glucose composed of corn syrup and flavoring. Each tube is resealable. Directions for use and an order form are provided.

Price: $4.00.

Source: Diabetes Association of Greater Cleveland; 2022 Lee Road; Cleveland, OH 44118. (216) 371-3301.

Injection Aids

17. AFB Insulin Needle Guide.

This custom-made guide helps the needle enter the center of the rubber stopper of the insulin vial. It consists of an aluminum trough, at one end of which is a V-shaped notch. In use, the V end of the trough is placed at the opposite end with its stopper towards the V. A syringe needle is then laid in the V and the vial pushed toward it, allowing the needle to penetrate the rubber stopper. Because vial sizes vary, an empty one must accompany the order so that the guide can be made to fit.

Price: $4.00. Order No: MES165.

Source: American Foundation for the Blind; 15 West 16th Street; New York, NY 10011 (202) 620-2000.

18. B-D Busher Automatic Injector.

The injector enables the user to quickly inject himself by pressing a "trigger" device. The syringe must first be filled in

the conventional way. This device is said to provide a swift and relatively painless injection at the proper depth and angle.

Price: $13.19.

Source: Most surgical supply houses. Manufacturer: Becton Dickinson, Consumer Products; 365 West Passaic Street; Rochelle Park, NJ 07662. (201) 368-7300.

19. B-D Cornwall Syringe.

This special model syringe consists of a 1 cc replaceable B-D Cornwall glass syringe that fits inside a metal holder equipped with an adjustable stop. The device must be preset by a physician or nurse so that when the plunger is released, the correct volume of solution is drawn from the vial. Disassembly is accomplished without disturbing the setting. This is not for mixed doses of insulin and is available in U-80 and U-100 scales.

Price: $15.95. Order No: MES166.

Source: American Foundation for the Blind; 15 West 16th Street; New York, NY 10011. (212) 620-2000.

20. C-Better Syringe Magnifier.

This simple snap-on magnifier is designed for administering medicine by syringe where the calibrations are difficult to read. It magnifies 2X without distortion. It is made of clear plastic and can be boiled in water, soaked in alcohol, or washed in soap and water. The magnifier does not come in contact with the needle. The snap-on wires can be bent to fit different sized syringe barrels.

Price: $3.00.

Source: Tri County Rehabilitation Center, Inc.; 4461 S.E. Federal Highway; Stuart, FL 33494. (No phone number available.)

21. Cemco Syringe Magnifier.

This plastic and stainless steel clip-on magnifier attaches to any syringe. It is unbreakable and helps the diabetic read the proper calibrations more easily.

Price: $4.00.

Source: Cemco; P.O. Box 21; Scandia, MN 50073. (No phone number available.)

22. Char-Mag Syringe Magnifier.

The magnifier clips onto the syringe glide system and, after adjustment of the numbers toward the front of the syringe, is ready to use. The full view of the syringe diminishes bubble problems. The magnifier also supports the prepared syringe during the preparation of the skin.

Price: $4.00.

Source: Char-Mag Company of Glendale; 6026 North Apple Blossom Lane; Milwaukee, WI 53217. (414) 962-6059.

23. Dos-Aid Syringe Filling Device.

The device features an adjustable volume regulator for positioning the syringe plunger. The regulator permits predetermination of the length of the column of insulin that can be drawn into the syringe. It is made of plastic and should be used primarily with disposable U-100 syringes such as B-D Plastipak long or Jelco long.

Price: $9.95. Order No: MES563.

Source: American Foundation for the Blind; 15 West 16th Street; New York, NY 10011. (212) 620-2000.

24. E-Z-Jector.

Designed for use with the U-100 disposable syringe, this new product is available in four specific types of syringes: B-D 1 cc, B-D 1/2 cc, Monoject 1 cc, and Monoject 1/2 cc.

Price: $10.00/prepaid.

Source: Harco Products; P.O. Box 261; Wellesley, MA 02181. (No phone number available).

25. HoldEase.

This plastic device is designed to hold both the insulin vial and the syringe. The insulin vial clips into one end of the guide and the syringe clips into the other end. The guide can then be compressed, allowing insertion of the needle into the vial without the risk of contamination.

Price: $9.75.

Source: Meditec, Inc.; 9485 East Orchard Drive; Englewood, CO 80111. (303) 771-4863.

26. Hypo Grip.

The specially designed arm clamp creates the proper "pinch" to the upper arm for the injection of insulin. The adjustable band can accommodate all arm sizes.

Price: $9.75.

Source: Harco Products; P.O. Box 261; Wellesley, MA 02181. (No phone number available.)

27. Inject-Aid.

This self-help device is 6 inches long and made of high impact plastic that provides support between the vial and syringe. A dosage guide and plunger stem permit accurate measurement of insulin. Inject-Aid will accommodate all lengths of syringes for U-40, U-80, and U-100 insulin.

Price: $4.95/postpaid.

Source: George Wright Industries; 82 West Lake Shore Drive; Lincoln, NE 68528. (402) 477-1382.

28. Injectable Training Arm.

The Injectable Training Arm is used for instruction in starting I. V.'s, taking blood samples, and giving subcutaneous and intramuscular injections. It realistically simulates the qualities of texture, feel, and resistance to a needle. Special self-healing plastic veins installed under the skin at the dorsum of the hand and wrist and in the cubital fossa of the arm add to the realism and instructional value of the simulator. The skin and veins can readily be replaced when needed. (TC-M)

Price: $295.00/LF 698W Adult Injectable Training Arm (white); $295.00/LF 6988 Adult Injectable Training Arm (black); $195.00/LF 958 Pediatric Injectable Training Arm.

Source: Trainex Corporation; 12601 Industry Street; Garden Grove, CA 92641. (800) 854-2485.

29. Injector-aid.

Injector-aid is a small, lightweight injection helper designed to eliminate many of the difficulties and discomforts of injections. It does not require sterilization and can be purchased without a prescription. This self-help device is not suitable for glass or Lo-dose syringes but can be used with the B-D 1 or Monoject 1 disposable syringes.

Price: $9.95 plus $1.00 postage.

Source: Support Systems Corporation; P.O. Box 88687; Atlanta, GA 30338. (404) 393-1729.

30. Insulgage.

The Insulgage Loading Gage enables the diabetic who has problems measuring the correct amount of insulin to load the syringe safely and accurately, to vary doses, and to measure mixed doses. This precalibrated volume regulator is available in a large range of dosage sizes for U-40, U-80, and U-100 insulin.

Price: $5.00 (inkprint); $5.50 (braille); $6.00 (raised numbers); $6.50 (raised numbers and braille).

Source: Meditec, Inc.; 9485 East Orchard Drive; Englewood, CO 80111. (303) 771-4863.

31. Insulin-Aid.

Made of clear plexiglass with a magnetic back, the device attaches to any metallic surface. It will hold firmly in place any U-40, U-80, or U-100 vial and should last the lifetime of the user. The device enables the user to monitor the level of insulin and to avoid the awkwardness of holding the bottle while preparing and taking insulin. It can also be used to protect and store insulin while traveling.

Price: $8.98.

Source: Seabee Corporation; Insulin-Aid Division; P.O. Box 457; 602 South Federal Street; Hampton, IA 50441. (515) 456-4871.

32. Insulin Dosage Monitor.

This is an elongated plastic strip, pre-cut by the physician at the point on the scale that corresponds to the desired insulin dosage. It is for use with B-D #8409 Plastipak U-100 syringes only. It is not for mixed doses. It is recommended that the monitor be changed every three to four months or if the dosage of insulin is adjusted.

Price: $25.00/10.

Source: Andros, Inc.; 2332 4th Street; Berkeley, CA 94710. (415) 849-1377.

33. Insulin Injection Rotation Chart.

Front and back views of the human body are shown with injection sites diagramed. Users are instructed to record sites of injections daily on the chart.

Price: Write for complete information.

Source: St. Vincent Infirmary; Markham and University Streets; Little Rock, AR 72201. (501) 661-3000.

34. Insulin Needle Guide.

The guide fits over the top of Eli Lilly insulin bottles. It is made of lightweight aluminum and has a concave opening that guides the syringe needle directly into the rubber stopper. It can be used with the Insulin Vial Guide. (See item #37.)

Price: $1.50.

Source: American Foundation for the Blind; 15 West 16th Street; New York, NY 10011. (212) 620-2000.

35. Insulin Syringe.

The syringe consists of a standard 2 cc replaceable glass barrel fitted within a 3-1/2-inch long metal casing on which a large nut is threaded. As the nut is rotated, clicks can be felt and heard. Each click represents 1/20 cc or 4 units on U-80 scale; 2 units on U-40 scale. This is not available in the U-100 scale.

Price: $19.95.

Source: American Foundation for the Blind; 15 West 16th Street; New York, NY 10011. (212) 620-2000.

36. Insulin Syringe.

This standard short 1 cc glass syringe is for U-100 only. It is fitted with a metal Tru-Set syringe control that must be set by a physician or registered nurse to permit insulin measurement without sight. It helps to ensure that the prescribed dose of insulin will be drawn into the syringe and tends to simplify preparation for injection.

Price: $9.00.

Source: Eisele and Company, Inc.; Nashville, TN 37210. (No phone number available.)

37. Insulin Vial Guide.

This device guides the syringe needle directly into the rubber stopper of the insulin bottle. It is made of white enameled wood and has an extended arm against which the vial is positioned plus a groove into which the syringe is placed.

Price: $2.00.

Source: American Foundation for the Blind; 15 West 16th Street; New York, NY 10011. (212) 620-2000.

38. Medi-jector.

A prescription from a physician is needed to purchase the needleless MEDI-JECTOR, which weighs 22 ounces and is 7 inches long. The device must be sterilized once a month and comes with a 1-year warranty.

Price: $650.00.

Source: Derata Corporation; 4205 Winfield Scott Plaza, Suite 1; Scottsdale, AZ 85251. (602) 994-8743.

39. Proper Site Selection and Preparation for Insulin Injections.

The diabetic is provided with a 7-week rotation plan for injections, a site selector, and an injection log to maintain accurate records. Proper site preparation is discussed, and injection tips are given.

Price: Free.

Source: Becton, Dickinson Consumer Products; 365 West Passaic Street; Rochelle Park, NJ 07662. (201) 368-7300.

40. Sugar Babe.

This doll was developed to help insulin-dependent diabetics learn basic concepts needed for daily care and to practice measuring insulin and actual injections. The complete package consists of the Sugar Babe doll and a workbook, "A Guide to the Insulin Dependent Person." Materials are contained in a sturdy trunk designed for the diabetic to carry when away from home.

Price: $34.95. (New Jersey residents add 5 percent tax.)

Source: Sugar Babe, Inc.; P.O. Box 3133; Princeton, NJ 08540. (609) 443-6426.

41. TissueTest.

This injection practice aid simulates the texture of tissue and skin. A 3-inch square of 1-inch thick plastic adheres to the skin, enabling the diabetic to practice actual injections and experience the true feel of an injection.

Price: $15.00/12.

Source: Meditec, Inc.; 9485 East Orchard Drive; Englewood, CO 80111. (303) 771-4863.

Travel Aids

42. Diabetic's Case.

A soft, brown, leather-like stitched case with washable liner provides space for alcohol wipes, Ketostix, insulin, Clinitest, test tube and dropper, 30-day supply of syringes, test records, and a specimen bottle which is included in the kit. The case measures 7 1/2" x 8 1/2" x 2 3/4" and can be customized by removing pre-cut foam options.

Price: $13.95. (Connecticut residents add 7 percent sales tax.)

Source: Dezmar; P.O. Box 386D9; 24 School Street; Danielson, CT 06239. (203) 774-3505.

43. Diabetic Carrying Outfit.

Designed for use with nondisposable syringes, the kit contains a silver steri-tube for the syringe, 2 other tubes for reusable needles, 2 vials for insulin, and a glass vial for alcohol.

Price: $10.00/suggested retail price.

Source: Available at local drugstores. Manufacturer: Becton, Dickinson Consumer Products: 365 West Passaic Street; Rochelle Park, NJ 07662. (201) 368-7300.

44. Total Tote.

This unbreakable polypropylene, leather grained carry-all fits in a pocket or purse and provides space for six syringes, six swabs, and two vials of insulin. It also holds Monoject 1/2 cc syringes.

Price: $6.95 plus $0.60 postage. (Iowa residents add 3 percent sales tax.)

Source: Five "C", Inc.; P.O. Box 1208; Dubuque, IA 52001. (No phone number available.)

45. Travel Kit.

The small styrofoam travel kit provides room for two vials of insulin, four disposable syringes, and alcohol wipes.

Price: $1.00/suggested retail price.

Source: Available at local drugstores. Manufacturer: Becton, Dickinson Consumer Products; 365 West Passaic Street; Rochelle Park, NJ 07662. (201) 368-7300.

46. Travel Kit.

The Odyssey Travel Kit organizes and protects insulin, syringes, reagent strips, and other necessities during daily travel or on vacations. It weighs less than 1-1/4 lb. when filled.

Price: $14.95. (California residents add 6 percent sales tax.)

Source: Odyssey Unlimited; P.O. Box 99956; San Diego, CA 92109. (No phone number available.)

Urine Testing Aid

47. Clinilog II.

This checkbook-sized diary can be used to record glucose and ketone urine test results and insulin dosage for 1 year. It also provides information on foot care, insulin reactions, ketosis, and urine testing.

Price: $1.00; $0.75/100 or more.

Source: Ames Clinilog II; P.O. Box 9706; St. Paul, MN 55197. (No phone number available.)

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